

**“Promoting the Use of Filtering Software” Subsidy Programme 2008-09**  
**Essential Points of the Talk**

I. Introduction to the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (COIAO)

1. Scope of control: Internet materials are also included
2. Classification of articles:

—Class I (Neither Obscene nor Indecent) articles may be published without restriction.

—Class II (Indecent) articles must not be published to persons under the age of 18. The following warning notice should be shown on the screen before the users can access to the content of the webpage:

*WARNING : THIS ARTICLE CONTAINS MATERIAL WHICH MAY OFFEND AND MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED , CIRCULATED , SOLD, HIRED , GIVEN , LENT , SHOWN , PLAYED OR PROJECTED TO A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS*

警告：本物品內容可能令人反感；不可將本物品派發、傳閱、出售、出租、交給或出借予年齡未滿18歲的人士或將本物品向該等人士出示、播放或放映。

—Class III (Obscene) articles are prohibited from publication.

\* Uploading onto the Internet or forwarding “obscene” or “indecent” materials (resulting in people under the age of 18 being exposed to “indecent” materials) constitutes a breach of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance.

3. Enforcement agencies: The Obscene Articles Tribunal (OAT) is part of the Judiciary which has exclusive jurisdiction to determine the classification of an article, whereas the enforcement agencies include Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority, the Hong Kong Police Force as well as

the Customs and Excise Department. Articles suspected to be in breach of the COIAO will be submitted to the OAT for classification before prosecution against the suspect is made.

## II. The Internet:

4. Potential online risks faced by juveniles: Children and young people may be exposed to indecent and obscene materials, which will have a negative impact on their mental health. They may also be tempted to forward those materials to their pals or peers, thereby violating the law and leading to being criminally liable.

5. Advice to parents

## III. Introduction to filtering software

6. Importance of filtering software

7. Major functions of filtering software